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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Stephen J. TODD and Michael KILIAN

Serial No:

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Confirmation. No.:

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Filed:

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For:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE MODIFICATION OF A

RETENTION PERIOD FOR DATA IN A STORAGE SYSTEM

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

2171

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 14th day of June, 2004.

Signature

Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows: